



# COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Part	Section	Subject	Policy No.	Review Date
Institutional Services	Health Care	Notification of Next of Kin on Serious Illness or Injury	4.5.3	
ACA Standard	3-ALDF-4E-44 Notification of Next of Kin on Serious Illness or Injury			
Consent Decree	Paragraph 54 Develop Facility Policies and Procedures			

### I. PURPOSE

Department of Corrections (DOC) in notifying the inmate's/detainee's next-of-kin of any Serious injury, illness (including mental illness).

### II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Department of Corrections (DOC) to ensure that proper notification is provided to the next-of-kin of inmates/detainees in the event of a serious illness or injury (mental illness).

### III. PROCEDURES

The inmate's/detainee's serious illness or injury is of immediate concern to the inmate's/detainee's family. The name of the inmate's/detainee's next-of-kin will be obtained at the time of admission. In the event an inmate/detainee has a serious illness or injury, the Commissioner of Corrections will be notified.

#### A. ILLNESS/INJURY NOTIFICATION

In the event an inmate/detainee is seriously ill or injured, the Shift Commander will contact and brief the following as to the nature of the illness or injury, date and time and actions taken:

1. Commissioner of Corrections
2. Director of Corrections
3. Deputy Director of Corrections
4. Operations Captain

The telephone/pager numbers are available in the Central Control.

Based on the information provided by the attending physician, a decision will be made if an inmate's/detainee's illness is sufficiently serious or condition so grave as to require notification of the next-of-kin. The Shift Commander will notify the Commissioner of Corrections and he/she or her/his designee will notify the inmate's/detainee's next-of-kin.

At no time will the public and media be informed as to the inmate's/detainee's illness/injury prior to informing the designated individuals. The Commissioner of Corrections or his designee will notify the inmate's/detainee's next-of-kin or the person to be contacted in case of an emergency. This information can be obtained in the inmate's/detainee's file.

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10-23-07

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